



2/17/05

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 69 (Birkholz)

SB 69 would include suspended pupils among those permitted to attend strict discipline academies. Suspended pupils who had been referred to the academy by the school and placed there by the pupil's parent or guardian would be allowed to attend these academies. Under current law, expelled pupils can enroll in strict discipline academies, charter schools that are allowed to limit their enrollment to these pupils. The bill would also allow suspended pupils to be enrolled. Many times, students are suspended for the duration of the school year and may not have other educational opportunities available to them.

- SB 69 passed [RC 10: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 93 (Garcia)

SB 93 would require the Michigan Department of Education, for the 2008-2009 school year and succeeding school years, to develop and make available to school districts and public school academies one or more model character development programs that the districts and academies could adopt and implement. A school board or the board of directors of a public school academy would be encouraged to provide a comprehensive character development program for pupils in each grade level it operated. The character development program would have to be similar to the Michigan model for comprehensive school health education character education curriculum, the character counts program, the character first: education series, or the character unlimited program. The character development program also would have to be secular and research-based and have documented effectiveness; teach core ethical values and character qualities such as honesty, fairness, kindness, courtesy, compassion, acceptance, responsibility, respect for self and others, respect for the property of others, and service to others and to the community; and be designed to encourage each pupil to become a responsible, contributing member of society.

- BRATER 1 (1 amend) was defeated [no RC]. This would strip out the language encouraging programs which stress "strict obedience" to authority.
- SB 93 passed [RC 11: 33 yes, 4 no].